

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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AUG 2 9 2017

### MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE ARMY SECRETARY OF THE NAVY SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Policy Clarification for Department of Defense Instruction 1341.12, "Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living Program"

After conversations with the Military Department Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL) representatives, the Department of Defense (DoD) discovered the need to clarify the application of paragraphs 3.e.(2) and 3.e.(3) in DoD Instruction 1341.12 regarding when SCAADL is not paid. Specifically, it clarifies that SCAADL compensation will not be paid when the Service member's caregiver receives compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers and/or when a former Service member, now veteran, receives VA Special Monthly Compensation.

Effective immediately, the language in the attached document includes the policy clarification that must be followed for the execution of the DoD SCAADL program. I will ensure that the clarification and information in this memorandum are incorporated in the next revision of the SCAADL issuances. Additionally, the VA Special Monthly Compensation codes are attached to this memorandum to avoid any misunderstanding.

My point of contact is Mr. Bret Stevens, Director, Disability Evaluation System, who may be reached at (703) 604-5642 or bret.stevens1.civ@mail.mil.

A. M. Kurta

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Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Attachments: As stated

#### DoDI 1341.12--Changes to Paragraph 3.e.

Red italic text indicates clarification language.

#### e. SCAADL is not paid:

- (1) If any other federal agency is providing outpatient or in-home services to assist the member with activities of daily living (ADL) or with supervision to avoid the Service member's harming themselves or others.
- (2) If the Service member's primary caregiver receives a monthly caregiver stipend from the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) *Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers* in accordance with *Section 1720G of Title 38 United States Code*.
- (3) If the former Service member, now veteran, receives a monthly stipend from the VA in accordance with Section 1114 of Title 38 United States Code. An eligible member will be made aware that his/her eligibility for SCAADL will expire the last day of the month during which a 90-day period ends that begins on the date of separation or retirement of the member even though the member has not begun to receive compensation under Section 1114(r)(2) of Title 38 before the end of such period.
- (4) If the Service member qualifies for and accepts in-home assistance with ADL (custodial care), paid with supplemental health care program funds and provided by a TRICARE-authorized home health agency.
- (5) If the Service member is found fit by a Service physical evaluation board, or otherwise returned to duty status as unfit, but retained on active duty. The Service member will be removed from the SCAADL program in accordance with the Military Department's regulations.

# **Special Monthly Compensation (SMC)**

SMC K 38 CFR 3.350(a)	loss or loss of use (L/LOU) of a creative organ; or, L/LOU of a hand; or, L/LOU of a foot; or, L/LOU of both buttocks
	deafness of both ears having absence of air and bone conduction
	complete organic aphonia with constant inability to communicate by speech
	blindness in one eye, having light perception only (LPO)
	loss of 25-percent or more of tissue from one or both breasts or breast tissue has been subject to radiation treatment
SMC L 38 CFR 3.350(b)	anatomical L/LOU of both feet; or, anatomical L/LOU of one hand and one foot
	blindness in both eyes with visual acuity of 5/200 or less
	being <b>permanently</b> bedridden, or being so helpless as to be in need of the regular aid and attendance (A&A) of another person
SMC M 38 CFR 3.350(e)	anatomical L/LOU of both hands
	anatomical L/LOU of <b>both</b> legs at a level, or with complications, <b>preventing</b> natural knee action with prostheses in place
	anatomical L/LOU of <b>one</b> arm and <b>one</b> leg <b>preventing</b> natural elbow and knee action with prostheses in place, due to the level of involvement or with complications
	blindness in both eyes having LPO, or
	blindness in both eyes leaving the Veteran so significantly disabled as to be in need of regular A&A
SMC N 38 CFR 3.350(d)	Anatomical loss or loss of use of <b>both</b> arms at a level, or <b>with complications preventing</b> natural elbow action with prosthesis in place
	Anatomical loss of both legs so near the hip as to prevent use of prosthetic appliances
	Anatomical loss of <b>one</b> arm <b>so near</b> the shoulder as to prevent use of a prosthetic appliance <b>with</b> anatomical loss of <b>one</b> leg <b>so near</b> the hip as to prevent use of prosthetic appliance
	Anatomical loss of <b>both</b> eyes (enucleation), blindness without light perception (NLP) in both eyes, or loss of <b>one</b> eye <b>with</b> NLP in the other
SMC O 38 CFR 3.350(e)	anatomical loss of both arms so near the shoulder as to prevent use of a prosthetic appliance
	combination entitling two rates of (l) through (n)
	certain combinations of blindness and deafness
	paraplegia with loss of bowel and bladder sphincter control
SMC P 38 CFR 3.350(f)	various combinations of losses of two extremities.
	bilateral loss of vision and blindness in connection with deafness and/or loss of an extremity.
	additional disabilities rated 50% or 100%.
	loss or loss of use of three extremities.
SMC R 38 CFR 3.350(h)	entitled to the maximum rate of compensation payable under 38 USC 1114 (o) or (p), or, entitlement under SMC (n) $\frac{1}{2}$ + (k) you must consider entitlement to (r)(1) - there is a factual need for regular A&A or, (r)(2) benefits - higher level of care
SMC S 38 CFR 3.350(i)	The housebound benefit or SMC (s) is payable under 38 U.S.C. 1114(s) (38 CFR 3.350(i)) to a Veteran who has a <b>single</b> , SC disability evaluated as <b>totally</b> (100% or individual unemployability) disabling, <b>and</b> • has an additional SC disability, or combination of disabilities, independently evaluated as 60-percent or more disabling (statutory), or • is <b>permanently</b> housebound due to SC disability (factual)
SMC T 38 USC 1114(t)	SMC at the new (t) rate, which is equal to SMC at the (r)(2) rate for Veterans who  need regular A&A for residuals of TBI, but  are not eligible for higher level of A&A under (r)(2), and  would require hospitalization, nursing home care, or other residential institutional care in the absence of regular A&A